

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the paragraphs spanning lines 15-27 of page 7 and insert the following therefor:

Other features and advantages of the invention will be given in the examples that follow. ~~Transmission~~ and with reference to figures 1 to 3, which show, respectively, ~~transmission~~ electron microscope micrographs of structures and nanotubes according to the invention were produced of :

————— ~~Figures 1a and 1b, corresponding to a raw single-walled nanotube specimen and to a specimen after a 2<sup>nd</sup> purification step, respectively;~~

————— ~~Figures 2a and 2b, corresponding to a raw multi-walled nanotube specimen and to a specimen after a 2<sup>nd</sup> purification step, respectively;~~ and

————— ~~Figure 3a, single-walled nanotubes cut after strong sonification for one hour.~~

Please delete the paragraph spanning lines 27-39 of page 8 and insert the following therefor:

As regards the multi-walled nanotubes, most of the tubes were observed in the first fraction with a few impurities (~~Figure 1~~). The next fractions essentially contained amorphous carbon and other impurities, and a few rare nanotubes. The first fraction was then subjected to a second purification step by depositing 0.5 ml on a 14 cm × 0.7

cm column containing CPG 1400 A (mean cavity size: 140 nm). The same eluant was used, and after a dead volume of 6 ml, six 0.5 ml fractions were recovered, the eluant flux being set at about 10 ml/h. TEM observation showed that the second fraction contained pure multi-walled nanotubes, practically free of any impurity.

Please delete the paragraphs spanning lines 7-18 of page 9 and insert the following therefor:

Observation under the microscope showed that the first of the six fractions contained the purest nanotubes ~~(Figure 2)~~.

The next fractions contained very few nanotubes and the great majority of impurities. The first fraction was resubjected to a further purification cycle, using a new CPG 3000 A column (dead volume: 2 ml; 0.5 ml fractions). Six fractions were recovered. Observation under the microscope showed that fractions 4 and 5 contained single-walled nanotubes with a greater than 95% purity ~~(Figure 3)~~.